TALBOT COUNTY HUNGER COALITION January 2017 Coalition Connections



Feedtalbot.org



Winter Is Here, Ready or Not

Mothers everywhere cuddle with their children as wintry winds bear down on us (pun intended). So far this winter, weather has been a roller coaster of temperatures, but never forget there will be plenty of freezing temps and frostbite nights ahead.

Fortunately, for Talbot County our 16 food pantries and five meal providers stand ready to help folks get a hot meal.

Empty Bowls will be having its big fundraiser for so many of our pantries and providers on Sunday, February 26 with two seatings, 5 and 6:30 pm. Be sure to get your \$20 ticket. This is an important way to make sure your neighbors get that hot meal.

Next meeting of the Hunger Coalition Board: Wednesday, February 1, 9 a.m at 215 Bay Street

Empty Bowls

The 9th annual Empty Bowls community dinner to benefit Talbot County food pantries will be held on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2017 with two seatings, from **5 to 6 PM and from 6:30 to 7:30 PM**, available. Presented by Talbot County Empty Bowls volunteers, the dinner raises funds for and awareness of hunger in our community, fighting to end hunger one bowl at a time. The dinner is held at Immanuel Lutheran Church Hall, 7215 Ocean Gateway, Easton, MD 21601 (on the westbound lane of Rt. 50, west of the Maryland State Police barracks).

Tickets MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. Checks for tickets or donations can be mailed to Mid-Shore Community Foundation 102 East Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601 or charged online at https://mscf.givezooks.com/events/talbot-empty-bowls-2017

Friends Helping Friends

Looking for a great place to send your contributions? Friends Helping Friends Network would be happy to help you out and accept!! "You will be helping many ways: helping to house clients, clothing them, feeding many, and most importantly, keeping us operating so that we can make a true change!! You can bring your contributions to us, or mail them at 7827 Ocean Gateway, Easton, MD 21601," says founder and director of the meals for the homeless provider.

You can also join their "Circle of Friends" and donate monthly, whether it's \$5, \$20, or \$100 (whatever you are can do). As Sandy says, "It ALL matters, helps, and is needed!! Thank you in advance!!"

Talbot County Senior Center — Meals on Wheels



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Nineteen members and two of the staff attended the Christmas Luncheon at Delmarva Community Services in Cambridge, Dec. 15. Talbot County native

Monte Henry (2nd from left) provided the musical entertainment at DCS. He was accompanied by Walter "Billy" Brown on the keyboard. The members from DCS will visit us for our Valentine Luncheon Feb. 9.



Maggie Sansone and Andrea Hoag helped us celebrate the many moods of the holiday season with a unique blend of Celtic and American roots music, December 20. This concert was a part of the Carpe Diem Arts series with funding provided by the Talbot County Arts Council, The Maryland State Arts Council, Mid-Shore Community Foundation, Dock Street Foundation, Brookletts Place and individual contributions to the Carpe Diem Arts Outreach Fund at Mid-Shore Community Foundation.

We are still in need of volunteers to help with packing Meals on Wheels as well as back-up drivers to help deliver the meals. Please contact Cheryl Knopf, Meals on Wheels Coordinator at 410-822-2869 or cknopf@uppershoreaging.org.

TIS (Talbot Interfaith Shelter)

TIS guests had a bountifully blessed Christmas this year! The outpouring of generosity from the community was amazing. We helped two families move into their own apartments just prior to Christmas and delivered to them furniture, housewares, Christmas trees, and a mountain of gifts so they could happily settle into their own space for the holidays. Country School students wrapping gifts for our families.

Tilghman Food Pantry

Tilghman's Pantry gave out 20 boxes of food to families over the holidays. "We even added a few new school families this time. I hope they continue to stop by

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the pantry. We were able to add hats and gloves, books and shirts, donated by a

neighbor whose company screen prints them," according to Francine deSanctis, director.

Need help paying for food?

The FSP Minimum Benefit is Going Up!

If you are 62 or older, and are eligible for the Food Supplement Program (FSP, formerly food stamps), you may be eligible to receive an increased minimum benefit of \$30/month.

The Food Supplement Program (FSP, formerly known as Food Stamps) provides money on an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card that can be used like a debit card a most grocery stores, farmers markets and other authorized retailers.



For more information or to apply, call toll free $$^{1-800-332-6347}$ \ or \ $^{410-528-0021}$$







And don't foget to use Imagination Library for your patrons. Applications are available at the Talbot County Public Library.

